# Folder 15: Swanson, Verne (Petersburg and Hydaburg ) 1938-1943

June
15th
1938

Rev. Verne Swanson
Petersburg
Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I am enclosing herewith a page from THE STAR WEEKLY of Toronto, which describes the very romantic missionary enterprise that is being carried on by the Board of Home Missions of the United Church of Canada. It appealed to me very strongly as a type of work that might well be introduced into our program of Presbyterian missions in southeastern Alaska. Of course, we have the Princeton, and I realize that it is used occasionally to carry sick people to the hospital and for other types of work similar to what is described in this article; but it has always seemed to me that the Princeton is kept so busy on other errands that it does not seem possible to use it specifically for a program of human welfare and evangelism such as is visualized in the activity of the United Church Marine Missions on the British Columbia coast. If there is need in that area, it seems to me that there is still more need among the natives in southeastern Alaska.

Since I have been obliged to abandon my hope of using the Princeton primarily for this type of work, much as I would like to see it done, I have had it in mind to give Walter Soboleff an appointment to do this very kind of work when he graduates from Dubuque next spring. The girl he is going to marry is a trained nurse; and if we could appoint them as itinerant missionaries, equip them with a boat not nearly so large or pretentious as the Princeton, I believe they would be able to carry out the plan which I have longed to inaugurate in our work in southeastern Alaska but for which the way has not seemed to be clear since I found that the Princeton either was not available or not adaptable to this type of ministry.

My purpose in sending this article to you is, first of all, to sow the idea of inaugurating work of this kind in the minds of the members of Alaska Presbytery; and, second, to secure the reaction of each of you to the plan which I have in mind, to appoint Walter Soboleff as an itinerant evangelist, equipped with a boat, and with his wife as a nurse to carry on a purely evangelistic work among the natives in the little villages and canneries, whom we do not reach in the program of the Princeton and among whom it is not necessary or advisable to establish churches or to erect church buildings. What we want above all things is to take Christ into the hearts and lives of individual natives, and I shall never feel that our program of Alaska missions is thoroughly efficient until we have a missionary who is reaching the scattered, isolated, and unevangelized portion of the native population who are living in the small villages all along the southeastern Alaska coast.

I am taking you into my confidence in this matter, and I hope you will write me frankly giving me your reaction to these plans which I have in mind and which I have discussed with Walter Soboleff with his hearty approval, and which have been brought to a focus by the reading of this article concerning the Marine Missions of the United Church, of whose ministry I was not aware until this paper came into my hands.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Please return to JWD

Petersburg Alaska
July 4, 1938

Dear Dr. Somerndike,

I have your letter of June 15th with enclosure from the Star Weekly re. the United church's work in B.C.

I regret exceedingly that you were unable to spend a few days with us on the Princeton when you visited us at Juneau. Such a trip would undoubtedly have given you a different impression of S.E. Alaska.

First of all I wish to say that I highly approve of Walter Soboleff & his wife Genevieve & feel a place should be made for him.

At present ~~practically~~ all the native villages have established churches & buildings. The government supplies a registered nurse for each village. During the winter the natives are in towns & villages touched by the Princeton with the exception of Klukwan, 22 miles by road from Haines. During Spring & fall a part of the natives are found in so-called fishing camps, the larger of which are visited by the Princeton occasionally. During July & August the native women are working at the canneries while the men are round about on their seine boats fishing. The Princeton visits some of the canneries before & during salmon packing operations.

In general (your paraq. 3) I would say that there is no portion of the native population that is "scattered, isolated & unevangelized" in Southeastern Alaska so that I could hardly approve of your plan to appoint Walter to such a task!

May I suggest that if Walter be given a boat he might relieve the Princeton of the care of some of the established churches so that we might take time to visit individuals & families (white only) at lighthouses & fox farms & mink ranches. Outside of towns & villages our white population is very scattered.

I am enclosing a duplicate bill of Mr. Larsen with voucher for same. If the treasurer finds that the original has not been paid he can send him a check. I thought it had been paid

Paid 7/1/38

Sincerely
Verne J. Swanson

July
5th
1939

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I have felt for several years that the summer season is the most fruitful season for the use of the Princeton in evangelistic work and in work among the children in the canning and fishing villages along the water ways of southeastern Alaska. The Board feels that we should not neglect those children. The Princeton was put into service originally for this specific type of work, and it has been a source of great grief to me that we have not been following that program.

I am writing to you to say that it is the desire of the Board that the Princeton shall be used during the months of June, July, and August, in this type of evangelistic and vacation Bible school work, and that you arrange to take your vacation in the early spring or fall. We feel sure that you will be glad to make your arrangements according to this plan when you consider the interests of the cause and realize the opportunities that are being overlooked by the neglect of this type of work during the summer season when all the conditions are favorable for it. Stops should be made for several days in each community, the children gathered together day by day for a vacation Bible school program, and evangelistic services conducted during the evening with a visitation of families in a pastoral capacity and for personal work during the afternoons. I am sure that you will be glad to cooperate in these plans.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Petersburg Alaska

Aug. 1, 1938

Dear Dr. Somerndike,

I have your letter of July 5th & telegram re. the summer program of the Princeton. I am acquiescing in your instruction & hope to take my leave next spring.

I understand Rev. Pederson informed you that the National missions committee was unanimous in opposing my stand that I should take my leave during the height of the canning season. That is not true, as Bromley, who has had considerable cannery experience, backs me in my stand.

Are gospels of John available as a grant or should we buy them?

Am enclosing oil bills incurred during the 1000 mile McLeod trip hoping you have special funds available. Princeton funds are exhausted.

Sincerely
Verne J. Swanson

THE PRINCETON NEWS LETTER

3000 miles in thirty days! Neither by land nor by air but by water at nine knots per hour. This is the Princeton's record for the last two weeks of May and the first two in June. The previous month she had traveled 1800 miles and since then she has traveled 1650 miles. The Princeton's annual mileage record is 13,000 miles with most of the traveling in the spring and fall. With 6,450 miles to account for since our last letter to you, news of the Princeton and our activities on her takes us back many weeks in our log.

Many of you have not heard that we took the Princeton down to Seattle in February for the installation of a new 85 horsepower diesel engine. The new engine is very small in comparison with the old eight ton engine so affords us much more room in the galley which is just opposite the engineer's bunk to make more room for "extras" during student and other trips when we are overcrowded.

In April we made the Presbytery trip. This meant taking the Princeton to each town and village to pick up the ministers and layworkers, their wives and delegates to take them to the place of meeting, afterward to return them again to their homes. This year the meeting of Presbytery and Presbyterial was held in the native village of Angoon.. We had a wonderful time there. To give even a glimpse of the warm hospitality shown us would require too much detail but at least two of the impressions made on us we pass on to you...

The host in one of the homes where several of the ministers were entertained one day took out of his trunk some curios for us to see - two fine old Thlinget Potlach dishes and a wooden ceremonial hat, each piece a reminder of the old days before the Gospel of Christ was wholly accepted by the people. The carving done on them is beautiful and because of their rarity they are valuable so were viewed with interest and admiration, by those of us present. Our host explained however, that these true relics of the Thlinget's past are no longer on display in his home. Because Jesus Christ had come into his father's life and into his own life and that of his family, the old customs have been put aside and the dishes and totems hidden away lest some should not understand and should "stumble." Our Lord has been given first place in that home.

Some of you will remember our mention of Joseph the Helper on the Princeton a year ago - a young Thlinget. Since leaving us he has married a girl from the Hydah tribe, a Sheldon Jackson School graduate. Not very many years afo such a marriage between tribes would not have been permitted but with the coming in of Christianity hostilities have been broken down so we find such marriages more common now with the approval from both sides. Joseph and Catherine have estableshed their home in Angoon, are active in the church and Sunday School and influential with the young people. It was our privilege to be their house guests during the meeting of Presbytery and our joy to find they have established a Christian home.

The end of May found the Princeton on her annual job of returning the students of Sheldon Jackson to their homes. When we are responsible for sixty or more young people it is necessary to make two trips - carrying the north group (Angoon, Juneau, Hoonah, Haines, Skagway) first, and the south group (Kake, Petersburg, Wrangell, etc.) last.

Immediately following the student trip, it is up to the Princeton to carry the delegates, ministers and their wives to the young people's conference held each year on the S. J. S. campus at Sitka. Both the student and conference trips mean steady night and day running but the Helper is always on hand to relieve Mr. Swanson at the wheel, also the native boys

traveling with us often help. With important factor toward each person's mental and physical comfort. This year the waters off Cape Chacon (so often a "churning point") gave us several bad hours at the outset of our trip but by the time we had reached Ketchikan the storm had cleared and the rest of the trip to Sitka was smooth. The return trip made a perfect ending to a successful conference for even the dread Cape Chacon was smooth - even beautiful. That wide expanse of sea rolling from the southside is so friendly and enjoyable when calm one finds it hard at such times to believe it has such a reverse nature.

The last six days in June we held a Vacation Bible School in the native village of Hydaburg. We had a happy time with the children and young people there. The toal enrollment was twenty-eight with perfect attendance five days out of six, ages ranging between six and seventeen. An S. J. S. graduate assisted us, enabling us to have three interesting classes. The memorization of the ABC Bible verses was emphasized. All memorized five of them, many fifteen and twenty and some all twenty-six. A total of 265 verses was memorized aside from other memory work. We had a better response from these children than we have had from many another school for some time so were much encouraged. On the last morning an opportunity was given for the boys and girls to accept Christ as ther personal Saviour. Seven of the twenty-eight between the ages of eleven and fifteen nade the decision. As our appeal was not emotional we feel confident that these young people understood the step they took. In the afternoon of the same day we took the entire group for a two hour ride on the Princeton. We anchored and rowed them all ashore for a short hike up to Lake Hetta, a small trout lake. The children broke the trail for us, scrambling through brush, over logs and rocks on up to the Lake. On our arrival we found them fishing for minnows between the logs jammed together at the head of the lake and believe it or not they were pulling out four inch trout with blades of grass baited with tiny green worms. The trout were so very hungry that they were readily jerked out as they clung to the bait.

We have only touched the "high spots" in the travels of the Princeton. Aside from these longer trips, we make short trips for Mrs. Swanson has his pastoral duties to attend to in the villages of Kake, Angoon, Petersburg and Kasaan. Our last meeting at Kasaan was well attended not only by the natives but also by many of the white men employed in the cannery there. The rest of the summer we will spend in visiting the canneries to hold both adult and children's services. You shall have another log of our travels in the fall but until then please pray for us and the work of the Princeton.

We are, sincerely yours,

(signed) Rev. and Mrs. Verne J. Swanson

Aug.
12th
1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I have your letter enclosing bills for the expenses of the McLeod trip. As soon as Dr. McLeod gives us the money we will send you the check to pay these bills.

We shall be glad to make you a grant of 100 copies of the Gospel of John, sending them from the San Francisco Depository of the American Bible Society.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Sept.
9th
1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

Dr. McLeod has sent me his check for $31.50 to cover the oil bills which you submitted, which were incurred during the "1000 mile McLeod trip" this summer. I am enclosing this check herewith together with the bills and I will ask you to kindly see that they are paid promptly.

Faithfully yours,

BH

September 9th, 1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

We are glad to inform you that the American Bible Society has made a grant of 200 copies of the Gospel of John in accordance with your recent request. They will be sent to you without delay.

Faithfully yours,

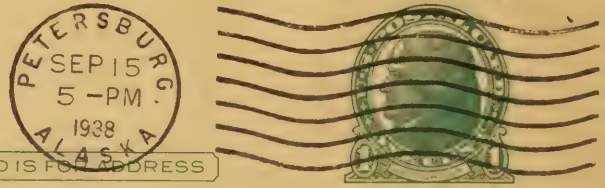
JMS:PDS

St. Petersburg Alaska Sept 1st 99

Dear Dr. Somerndike,

Could you send me a dozen or so
of the 25c American Sunday School Bibles?
The Princeton will be open as at present
Sept 1st to Oct 1st possibly longer unless something
special comes up. Do you wish to cancel insurance
for that period

Sincerely
Peter L. Svenson.




John M. Somerndike
150 Fifth Ave
New York City

Sept.
26th
1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

In response to your postal card of September 15th, we are sending you a dozen missionary Bibles, which of course you will sell wherever possible at thirty cents a copy and then send to my office the amount collected. However, where the people are absolutely unable to pay for the Bible you are at liberty to make a donation.

I am relaying to our insurance department your statement with reference to lay-up period of the Princeton. No doubt you will hear further from them regarding the matter.

Very sincerely yours,

BH

Sept.
28th
1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

Your letter of September 20th arrived after Dr. Somerndike had left the office to fill a number of synod engagements. We are obliged to hold your letter for his attention upon his return, the latter part of October, but at that time you may be assured that he will attend to the matter immediately.

We trust that this delay will not affect your application for relief from the penalty imposed in connection with the sale of the "Fern B".

Very sincerely yours,

BH Secretary to Dr. Somerndike.

Petersburg Alaska
Sept. 20, 1938

Dear Mr. Domenoske,

I am enclosing a letter from Juneau Customs re. the Fern 03.

I have made application for relief from the penalty incurred inasmuch as this letter was addressed to me & expect that relief will be granted.

Will you please send to the Juneau Collector the requested 'power of attorney' that the transfer may be properly consummated.

Sincerely
Carl L. Swanson

Oct.
21st
1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I am returning herewith the papers from the Customs Service in Juneau, which you enclosed with your letter of September 20th. I am enclosing also a letter authorizing Mr. Kaiper to sell the "Fern B" so that full authority will be on file in the Customs Office. Mr. Kaiper should have informed us at the time the boat was sold that we were expected to report the change of ownership to the Customs Office. We had no knowledge of this requirement at all.

I hope that you can get the matter satisfactorily straightened out with the Juneau office.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Oct.
21st
1938

Mr. James J. Connors,
Collector,
U. S. Customs Service,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Sir:

This is to certify that Rev. Daniel Kaiper, formerly our missionary at Klawock, was authorized by the Board of National Missions to sell the gasboat "Fern B" (No. 51 B 514) for which a bill of sale was issued under date of May 28th, 1938, in the name of the Board of National Missions, signed by Rev. Daniel Kaiper as authorized agent, in which he transferred the boat to Leigh E. Robinson of Klawock, Alaska.

We trust that this letter will be satisfactory evidence for your files of the authority of Mr. Kaiper acting for the Board of National Missions in transferring the ownership of the "Fern B" to Mr. Robinson.

Very truly yours,

JMS:BH

Secretary.

Nov.
21st
1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

The Board has decided to inaugurate an entirely new policy with reference to the use of the Princeton. The missionaries in Alaska have quite emphatically voiced their desire for the appointment of a general missionary who can visit their fields in a helpful way to stimulate their congregations and Sunday schools in developing the different aspects of the local church program, and to represent the headquarters department in matters pertaining to the care and repair of church properties. This general missionary would be under the necessity of having the Princeton at his disposal in order to do effective work.

We have offered this appointment to Mr. Christiansen of Ketchikan, and we are hoping that he will accept. If he does accept, he will be given entire charge of the Princeton and it will be operated exclusively under his direction. It will be our purpose therefore to employ a skilled engineer to operate the Princeton, acting entirely under instructions from the general missionary. We are quite confident that such a position would not be congenial to you, and we have therefore made our plans to employ a man who is thoroughly familiar with Alaskan waters and who possesses the necessary skill both as an engineer and navigator, to operate the Princeton satisfactorily.

The Board is planning to make the appointment of the general missionary effective by April 1st, 1939. Under this arrangement the Princeton will not be used for the transportation of passengers - as has been done in the past although contrary to our very specific instructions - but it will be used in accordance with the Board's original purpose in purchasing the Princeton, for missionary itinerations exclusively and to make possible such extension of the influence of our Presbyterian Church and its work in Alaska as may be practicable.

I regret that I am unable to offer you an appointment to any other field in Alaska. It is possible that Dr. Thomson of Seattle may have some vacant fields in Oregon or Washington in which you may be interested, and I would suggest that you write to him making inquiries.

I cannot close this letter without a word of appreciation of your faithful service since you were placed in charge of the boat after Mr. Waggoner was assigned to the native work in Juneau. The memory of the contacts that you have made in the course of your labors, and of the many helpful

ways in which you have been able to serve the people, will give you increasing satisfaction as the years come and go.

With every good wish, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:SH

cc to Rev. R. F. Pederson

Dec.
1st
1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I am in receipt of your voucher calling for a payment of $30 for manse rent for November. Since I have been advised that you are not now occupying the manse and that Mrs. Swanson is with you on the boat, and that you have rented the house or a portion of it to another party, we do not feel under any obligation to continue this payment of $30 per month.

I am sorry that you did not advise me of your plans with reference to this matter.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

cc to Mr. Pederson

Dec.
7th
1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

Since writing you regarding the Board's new program for the use of the Princeton - in consideration of which we assumed that you would prefer to be released from your present responsibilities as the boat missionary - it has occurred to us that possibly you would be willing to consider an appointment to take charge of our mission at Craig. We understand that there is a manse at Craig which you could occupy, and we are willing to appoint you to that field at a salary of $1500 per year, of which the Craig congregation will pay $180, leaving $1320 to be provided by the Board.

Kindly let me know at your earliest convenience whether you would be willing to accept such an appointment. Other arrangements will be made to provide for the work at Petersburg.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

cc to Rev. R. F. Pederson

Dec.
14th
1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I received a letter from Mr. Pederson, informing me that you have not vacated the house which we were renting for you in Petersburg but that you have rented one room at $15 a month. I am therefore sending you a check for $30 covering the rental for November as requested in your voucher about which I wrote to you a few days ago; but we will expect you to remit to us the full amount you have received from the tenant to whom you are renting a room at $15 a month. Obviously the Board could not rent a house for you at $30 a month and permit you to rent any part of it without remitting whatever you receive in rental back to the Board as a refund.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

cc to Mr. Pederson

Dec.
30th
1938

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I have your letter of December 20th. With reference to the matter of remitting to the Board any money that you receive from renting rooms in the house for which the Board allows you $30 a month rental, I wish to say that I am somewhat surprised at your statement that you did not know that it was against the Board's policy for a missionary to rent rooms in a house for which the Board pays the entire rental, and to retain the amount which he receives from his tenant. The whole issue is so simple. The Board agreed to give you $30 a month to provide a home for you. If you have found that the house contains more room than you need for a home and that you can rent a portion of the space, it would seem that all the considerations of loyalty to the Board's interests and of desire to carry on the work in the most economical way possible would prompt you to rejoice in the fact that you could save the Board a little money by sub-letting a portion of the space for which you had no immediate need, thus making the Board's funds go a little farther in the work of evangelisation.

You state: "It hardly seems fair to me that you should single me out and clamp down without any warning whatsoever". It ought never to be necessary for the Board to "warn" any missionary about a matter of this kind. I am expected to economize in every possible way in the use of the Board's funds, and every missionary is expected to do likewise. A missionary needs no warning where such considerations are involved. The reason no general order of this kind was issued to the missionaries is because I never for a moment suspected that any missionary would do a thing of this kind. I will expect you to remit to the Board all the money that you have received from your tenant and to continue to remit to the Board the amounts you receive each month in the future so long as the present arrangement continues.

So far as the situation at Juneau is concerned, I will say that Mr. Waggoner was given the permission to retain the rental of the missionary cottage, which more than six months ago was sold, in order to pay for the oil-burning outfit and other repairs which he paid for out of his own pocket. The cottage has been sold and he does not receive any rental now. If any other missionary is retaining any rentals which he receives from Board-owned properties or from properties for which the Board pays the rent, we shall expect Mr. Pederson to inform us in order that we may make it clear to them that this is not an honorable procedure.

We are perfectly willing, since you do not need the entire space in the house which you are renting, to have you sub-let a portion of it to a tenant of your own choice. You have a perfect right to sub-let as much

of the house as you can spare, but whatever money you receive in rental must naturally come to the Board which pays you the rental for the entire house. We will expect you to make the remittance covering the entire amount you have received thus far in rentals from your tenant.

I understand from your letter that you would like to be designated as the missionary at Craig. The congregation at Craig has definitely stated that they will pay $180 a year. We are willing to pay $1320 additional. We are informed that the Craig church is growing and that the community is growing and that there is every prospect that this church can contribute a much larger amount toward the salary of its minister. In view of this information, we will expect that the amount of salary which the Board pays for the Craig field will be reduced each year, thus giving the congregation an opportunity and a challenge to pay a larger proportion of the minister's salary. The appointment at Craig will be for one year only and without any definite commitment on the part of the Board to continue this arrangement for the ensuing year. The whole situation will have to be studied very carefully during this year. The small constituency at Craig hardly seems to warrant the employment of a missionary for full-time service. The combination of Craig and Klawock under one man is a far more logical arrangement, and it may be necessary for financial reasons in case the budget for Alaska work is reduced next year, to again combine these two fields under one missionary. In that case, either you or Mr. Kaiper would have to withdraw.

Of course, all our appointments are made for one year only; and if you are willing to accept the appointment on this basis we shall be glad to recommend the approval of this arrangement to the Presbytery's Committee on National Missions with this understanding. I expect to be in Alaska some time during the summer of 1939, and at that time I will take occasion to thoroughly investigate the whole situation both at Craig and Klawock.

In order that there may be a clear understanding regarding your appointment to the Craig field, I will await further word from you stating that you are willing to accept it as of April 1st, 1939, with the understanding that the Board is under no obligation to continue the arrangement after one year if upon further study of both the Craig and Klawock fields it seems impracticable for the Board to maintain two men for full time service in these two small communities; or in case the Board's budget for Alaska work next year should require reductions in our missionary force.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:HH

cc to Rev. R. F. Pederson

Petersburg, Alaska.
Dec. 20, 1938.

Dear Dr. Somerndike,

In answer to yours of the 7th of Dec. I am willing to accept an appointment to the Craig field. Am rather certain that the Craig church would be unable to pay the $180 you mention, at least not for some time, so that it would simply mean a reduction in salary basis for me.

If you should later consider a man for Petersburg I would appreciate an appointment there.

With reference to your previous letter about manse rent here at Petersburg, I did not know that it was against Board policy to rent one room as I have done. I was merely following the example of at least two other men in this Presbytery. It hardly seems fair to me that you should single me out and clamp down without any warning whatsoever. I returned last nite from a three week itineration leaving Mrs. Swanson here carrying on two Sunday services, women's activities and training the children for a Christmas program. Mrs. Swanson sometimes does travel with me but we must have a settled place for our worldly possessions. Also, one of our reasons for renting a room was that heat might be kept in the house during our absence to prevent pipes from freezing, etc.

The Board rule sounds fair enough to me and I am perfectly willing to remit any rentals received or would you prefer to have us not rent. It would seem fair to me that you require the other men who are renting to remit from the same time that you require my remitting.

Hoping that this will clear up some possible misunderstanding I am,

Yours sincerely,

Verne J. Swanson

Petersburg, Alaska
Jan 16, 1939

Dear Dr. Somerndike,

In answer to your letter of Dec. 30,

I am perfectly willing to accept Craig on the terms you mention.

If, at the end of next year it is necessary to combine the fields of Craig & Klawock I will gladly withdraw in favor of Mr. Kaigen or some other man

Sincerely yours
Verne L. Swanson.

Feb.
6th
1939

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

Since it does not seem to be practicable to carry out the plans we had in mind to transfer you to the Craig field, we have decided to continue you in your present position as the missionary in charge of the Princeton with the understanding that you will continue to make Petersburg your headquarters, giving as much time as you can to the development of our church work and program in Petersburg.

We have decided, however, that the operation of the boat should be under the direction of the Chairman of the Committee on National Missions and that the boat should not be used for any trips except such as have been approved by him. You can be in constant touch with Mr. Pederson at Wrangell since Wrangell is easily accessible from Petersburg. The Princeton must positively NOT be used to carry passengers who can use the regular boats, or for fishing expeditions or for any recreational purposes whatever by anyone whether connected with the Board or not. In order to carry out the purposes for which the Princeton was built and put into commission, it must be used strictly and exclusively for work that is related directly to our missionary program in southeastern Alaska, and the boat should not be used for any unnecessary trips not connected with our work. Under the direction of the Chairman of the Committee, it should be used to minister to people in villages where there are no churches and where the people are never visited by any Christian minister. We will expect you as the boat missionary to make such trips from time to time when the boat is not required for regular journeys to different fields in southeastern Alaska. Regular trips should be made to the fields in charge of native workers to assist them in their work as has been done in the past.

We will ask Mr. Kaiper to extend his work to Craig, serving both fields as he formerly did. Upon receipt of this letter, kindly wire stating whether this arrangement is satisfactory to you.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Petersburg Alaska
Feb 22, 1939

Dear Dr. Somerndike,

Re. your telegram of Feb. 21 in which you ask for my recommendations on passenger restrictions, I see the Princeton operator should be allowed to exercise his own discretion as to the carrying of passengers as long as it involves no loss of time or additional mileage.

However, even though you allow me the above reason, I see that I must offer my resignation as Princeton operator, to take effect when you find a suitable man to replace me. Until then of course I will carry on to the best of my ability in the program you mention.

I am frankly getting tired of some of the criticism from members of Presbytery who wish to have the whole say about their own work & yet want to run mine too. Even tho some of the criticisms were justified.

Understand that the men of Presbytery of whom I personally know three, still ignore Pearson's request that we acknowledge renting portions of their manses. And they did it long before I was even given a manse.

Sincerely
Irene Swanson

Mar.
13th
1939

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I was glad to receive your letter stating that you are willing to continue in your present work as operator of the Princeton until the Board can secure a suitable man to replace you. I am sorry that you feel so greatly dissatisfied. I regret as you do the criticisms which have been voiced by members of the Presbytery as well as those which have been made by yourself.

In accordance with your request, we shall take steps to secure someone to take your place as operator of the Princeton.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Feb.
23rd
1939

Rev. Verne J. Swanson,
Petersburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I have wired you in response to your wire, as follows:-

BOARD HAS NO FUNDS TO APPOINT HERBERT GREIG IN YOUR PLACE IN CHARGE OF PRINCETON WILL EXPECT YOU TO CONTINUE AS BOAT MISSIONARY SERVING PETERSBURG WITH OCCASIONAL VISITS TO CRAIG BOARDS FINANCIAL CONDITION DOES NOT PERMIT ANY EXTENSION OF WORK OR INCREASE OF EXPENDITURES AT PRESENT PLEASE WRITE ADVISING CHANGES YOU RECOMMEND REGARDING PASSENGER RESTRICTIONS

I fear you did not understand the full import of my letter informing you of the necessity of curtailment of expenditures due to the impending deficit in the Board's operations for the current year. So that there may be no misunderstanding, I repeat the statements made in my letter regarding this matter, as they affect our Alaska work:

1. Plans for the appointment of a general missionary for Alaska are postponed for the present.

2. No funds are available for the support of a full-time missionary at Craig. That field must be supplied as often as possible by the boat missionary if it is impossible for the missionary at Klawock to assume responsibility for it.

3. You may continue as the boat missionary at your present salary, with such allowance for house rent as may be required, not to exceed $30 per month, at Petersburg; with the understanding that if you sub-let any part of the house the rentals thus received will apply toward your rent allowance.

4. You will be responsible for maintaining regular services at Petersburg as heretofore. The congregation has earnestly petitioned the Board for your continuance as their minister. This is gratifying to the Board and we are satisfied to have you continue to serve this congregation.

5. In the operation of the Princeton you will be guided by instructions of the Chairman of the Committee on National Missions, as stated in my letter of February 6th.

6. The Princeton is <u>not</u> to be used for carrying <u>pay</u> passengers, nor for fishing or other recreational purposes. Upon instructions from the Board through the Chairman of the National Missions Committee it may be used for transporting members of the Board or of the Board's headquarters staff, or Presbyterians from the States who are interested in visiting the Board's mission stations. In such cases arrangements must be made in advance with the Secretary of the Board in charge of Alaska work. The expenses of such transportation will be paid for by the person or persons for whom it

is arranged through the Board's offices or through the Chairman of the National Missions Committee.

We trust that you will see your way clear to cooperate in these policies and plans. We realize that you are under no obligation to continue as the boat missionary if you find these arrangements uncongenial or if they do not meet with your approval. The Board will then be under the necessity of engaging a qualified navigator and engineer who will be placed in charge of the boat so that it may continue to serve the interests of our work in Alaska Presbytery, in fulfillment of the purposes for which the Board maintains it and for which it was originally placed in commission.

It will be necessary for you to notify us of your acceptance or non-acceptance of these arrangements not later than April 1st. Please bear in mind that these plans are prompted by considerations of economy which are imperative in view of the unfavorable condition of the Board's treasury and the unpromising outlook for the remainder of the present year. We hope and pray that financial conditions will improve, and to this end every missionary and other employed workers will be expected to lend their fullest cooperation.

It will be of interest to you to know that because of the necessity of conserving the Board's funds I have abandoned my plans to visit Alaska this year. This will effect some saving in expenditures. We are endeavoring to effect economies in other directions also. It may be necessary, if the present downward trend in contributions continues, to discontinue some of our present missionary projects or to reduce the salaries of workers. This we will avoid until there is no other alternative.

I have written thus at length in order to help to realize the gravity of the situation, and to enlist your cooperation in meeting the present emergency. The decision as to your willingness so to do is in your hands. We await your reply.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

cc to Rev. R. F. Pederson

Copy to Sheldon Jackson

Nunivak.

I have cabled you as follows to Seattle, as follows:

(Quote telegram sent Saturday)

I fear you did not understand the full import of my ~~former~~ letter informing you of the necessity & curtailment of ~~the~~ expenditures due to the impending deficit in the Board's Operations for the current year. ~~Let me repeat~~ So that there may be no misunderstanding I repeat the statement made in my letter regarding this matter, as it effects our Alaska work.

1. ~~I have~~ the appointment of a General Missionary for Alaska are postponed for the present.

2. No funds are available for the support of a full-time Missionary at Teller. ~~That field~~ must be supplied as ~~it~~ can possible by the boat missionary if it is impossible for the Missionary at Klawock to ~~undertake it~~ assume responsibility for it.

3. You may continue at the boat Missionary at your present salary, with allowance for house rent as may be ~~needed~~ required, not to exceed $30 per month, at Petersburg, with the understanding that if you vacate any part of the house, the rentals then received will apply toward your rent allowance. ~~The house keeper to remain~~

4. You will be remembered for maintaining regular services at Petersburg as heretofore. The Congregation has earnestly petitioned the Board for your continuance as their minister. This is gratifying to the Board and we are satisfied to have you continue to serve this Congregation.

5. In the operation of the Princeton you will be guided by instructions of the Chairman of the Committee on Naterial Missions, ~~and Headquarters~~ as stated in my letter of ____.

6. The Princeton is not to be used for carrying any passengers, nor for fishing or other recreational ~~expeditions~~ purposes. Upon instructions from the Board through the Chairman of the Nat. Miss. Com. it may be used for transporting ~~members of the Board or of the~~ Board's ~~staff~~ headquarters staff, or ~~Presbyterian ministers from the States~~ ~~Committee Clerks~~, who are interested in visiting the Board's mission stations. In such cases arrangements must be made in advance with the Secretary of the Board in charge of Alaska work. ~~The expenses of such transportation~~ will be paid for by the ~~Board~~ person or persons for whom it is arranged through the Board's offices or through the Chairman of the Nat. Miss. Committee.

The track you will keep your way clear to ~~Coffrate~~ as there [illegible] and plays. ~~If it is not convenient to go~~

You realize that you are under no obligation to continue on the board Missionary if you find these arrangements unacceptable ~~or unsatisfactory~~ if they do not meet with your ~~approval~~ approval. The Board will then be under the necessity of engaging a qualified navigator and engineer to be placed in charge of the boat so that it may continue to serve the interests of our work in Alaska Presbyterian ~~the purposes~~ for which the Board maintains it and for which it was originally placed in Commission.

It will be necessary for you to notify us of your acceptance or non-acceptance of these arrangements not later than April first. Please bear in mind that these plans are prompted by considerations of economy which are imperative in view of the unfavorable condition of the Board's treasury and the unpromising outlook for the remainder of the present year. We may hope and pray that financial conditions will improve and to this end every Missionary and other employed workers will be expected to lend their fullest cooperation. It will be a matter of regret to know that because of the necessity of economizing the Board's funds I have abandoned my plans to visit Alaska this year. This will effect some saving in expenditures the are endeavoring to effect economies in other directions also. It may be

necessary if the present depressed trend in construction continues, to discontinue some of our present preliminary projects or to reduce the vacancies of workers. This we will avoid until it becomes then a necessity alternative.

I have written thus at length in order to keep to realize the gravity of the situation in this and to enlist your co-operation in the present emergency. The decision as to your willingness so to do, is in your hands. We await your reply.

Sincerely yours,

March 23rd, 1939

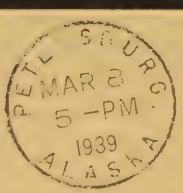
Rev. Verne J. Swanson
Petersburg
Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

We have your postal of March 7th with reference to the bill for $10.00 incurred in repairs to the Kake Church. We were obliged to hold this up pending approval by the Board, which was given last week. Just as soon as possible you will receive a check for this amount.

Very truly yours,

BH:PDS UNIT OF INDIAN WORK



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Treasurer Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church.
156 Fifth Ave
New York City.

Petersburg Alaska Mar. 7, 1939

Dear Sirs

On Feb. 4, 1939 my bank (University National - Seattle) received your check of 81.45 for my account which consisted of 51.45 for Princeton bills + 30 ⁰⁰ Petersburg masse rent but the check for 10 ⁰⁰ for Kake church bills sent with above has not been acknowledged by my bank. Will you please let me know why a check for the 10 ⁰⁰ Kake bills has not been sent to my bank, + oblige

Yours truly
Verne J. Swanson.

April 10, 1940

Rev. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

Please express to the Hydaburg Sunday School my personal appreciation, as well as the appreciation of our Board for the $2.00 gift that we have received to be applied on the replacement of the Princeton boat. Enclosed is our receipt for that amount.

We are hopeful in the near future to be able to make some definite announcement about our plans.

Cordially yours,

EBK:E
enc.

April 23, 1940

Rev. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

Your request for $50.00 for Manse repairs has been approved by our Cabinet, and you can proceed to do your work. Submit your bill, and we will be glad to take care of the amount.

I hope everything is moving along nicely for you.

Cordially yours,

EBK:E

# APPLICATION FOR NATIONAL MISSIONS AID

## TO THE

## BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.

Synod Washington Presbytery Alaska Church Hydaburg

P.O. Address of Church Hydaburg Alaska

| | Minister | Clerk of Session | Treasurer of Benevolences |
|---|---|---|---|
| Name: | Verne J. Swanson | | Fred Grant |
| Address: | Hydaburg Alaska | | Hydaburg Alaska |

| STATISTICAL REPORT Year Ending March 31 | Church Members | Sunday School Enrolment | FINANCES | | | GRANT Received from Board Nat'l. Miss. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Congregational Current Receipts | Benevolence Budget Causes | National Missions Congregational | |
| (Year) Last Church Year 1929 | 125 | 72 | $ 226 | $ 7.00 | $ 0 | $ none |
| Five Years Ago | | | | | | 1200.00 |

### CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH AID MAY BE GRANTED

1. A survey of field is required once every five years for each field aided. Survey of Field blank may be secured from Executive or from H. N. Morse, Administrative Secretary, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

2. In accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly, the granting of aid is contingent upon the acceptance by the congregation of certain Standards of Program, as described in the Manual for National Missions Churches and summarized on this Application blank.

3. By instruction of the General Assembly, aid is not to be granted to a competitive field as defined in the General Assembly action. See Manual, page 13.

4. Each aided field, unless definitely exempted from this requirement, is expected to make annual progress toward self-support. See Manual, page 15.

5. **The Board's grant is made as a part of and as a supplement to a local Budget, duly approved by the congregation and made the basis of its Every Member Canvass.** The budget form on page 2 of this blank should be carefully filled out.

6. Each church applying for aid should familiarize itself with all of the provisions of the Manual, including the statement of ways in which the Board is prepared to be of service to the congregation and its minister.

☞ **MAKE A SEPARATE APPLICATION FOR EACH CHURCH SERVED**

TWO copies of each application are required, one for the National Missions Committee and one for the Board. The Church is advised to make an additional copy for its own record.

# FINANCIAL DATA

1. REPORT OF CONGREGATIONAL TREASURER for Year Ending March 31, 1939:

**RECEIPTS—Congregational Expense**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Regular Contributions as subscribed | $ |
| 2. General Offerings | 99 |
| 3. Individual Gifts | |
| 4. Organizations: for Church Budget - from | |
| Sunday School | |
| Women's Societies | 7 |
| Young People's Societies | |
| 5. Other sources | 120 |
| Total, Local Sources | $ 226 |

**ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR BUILDING, MAJOR REPAIRS, INTEREST OR INDEBTEDNESS:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Received | $ |
| Disbursed | |

**BENEVOLENCE, BUDGET CAUSES**

Amount remitted, Year ending Mar. 31, 1939

| | |
|---|---|
| To Board of National Missions | $ 7 |
| " " " Foreign Missions | |
| " " " Christian Education | |
| " " " Pensions | |
| " Other Budget Agencies | |
| Total | $ 7 |

**EXPENDITURES—Congregational Expense**

| | Expended Last Year | Budget Adopted for the New Year |
|---|---|---|
| **I. Staff** | | |
| Salary—Minister | $ 120 | $ 180 |
| Salaries—Other Workers | | |
| Pension Premiums | | |
| **II. Maintenance of Building** | | |
| Fuel | 25 | 25 |
| Light | 10 | 30 |
| Incidental Repairs | | 200 |
| Janitor Service | | |
| Insurance | | |
| **III. Operating Expense** | | |
| Vacation Church School | | |
| Week-Day Activities | | |
| Music | 10 | 50 |
| Printing | | |
| Other Items | | |
| **IV. Equipment** | | |
| From budget for furniture and furnishings | | |
| TOTAL | $ 165 | $ 485 |
| Balance on hand | $ | |

Signed Fred Grant
Treasurer

2. EVERY MEMBER CANVASS: Date when made None made

Number of persons subscribing —; total amount subscribed for Congregational Expense $ —, for Benevolence $ —

(Note: a separate form is provided for reporting the names of those subscribing and the amounts subscribed. This blank should be forwarded with the Application Blank.)

3. SALARY OF MINISTER:

Total salary minister is to receive, rate per annum $ 1525.00; amount of this salary which this church will pay $ 180.00. Is free use of Manse provided? Yes

or House Rent allowance above Salary? —

Has this Church entered the Service Pension Plan? No. Has the minister (or other eligible worker) entered the Service Pension Plan? Yes. Has the Church met, in full, its payments on the Pension premium? —. Has the minister (or other worker) met, in full, his payments on the Pension premium? Yes

# STANDARDS FOR THE AIDED FIELD

These Standards, prepared in accordance with an instruction of the General Assembly, were approved by the Board of National Missions in April, 1934, and by the General Assembly in May, 1934. It is the intention of the General Assembly that the cooperation of the Board shall be extended to a church for the purpose of meeting certain hopeful objectives of Christian service. An opportunity is thus given the aided church to pioneer in the establishment of forward-looking practices in church work.

This specification, condensed from the fuller statement of Standards in the Manual for National Missions Churches, is to be carefully considered by the congregation and filed as a part of the Application for Aid. The Application will not be accepted otherwise. In column one, check those items now being met. In column two, check those items which will be undertaken during the year for which application is being made. In column three, check those items from which the church asks to be exempted for this year. A separate statement must be attached as to the reasons for such requested exemptions. On recommendation of the National Missions Committee, exemption may be granted by the Board for one year.

(The paragraph numbers and letters in this form correspond to those in the Manual, Section II, pages 8 to 13, which see for fuller statement of Standards.)

## A. STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO ALL AIDED CHURCHES

| Col. 1 Now in Effect | | Col. 2 Adopted for Forthcoming Year | Col. 3 Exemption Requested Attach statement giving reasons |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **I. A Program for the Year.** | | |
| | Church to plan and adopt a program for the year, with specific advance objectives. (Attach a copy to this Application.) | | |
| | **II. The Minister.** | | |
| ✓ | 1. To live on the field he serves. (If he serves more than one church, to live adjacent to that one from which entire parish is most accessible.) | | |
| ✓ | 2. To devote entire time to work of his ministry and not to hold any other remunerative position. | | |
| ✓ | 3. The minister, or other eligible worker, to enter the Service Pension Plan. | | |
| ✓ | 4. The Church to agree that whenever it becomes vacant, it will counsel with and abide by the recommendation of the Synod's Committee on National Missions, acting in cooperation with the Presbytery's Committee on National Missions, as to the person to be secured as pastor or stated supply. (In the case of a Specially Designated Presbytery the Presbytery's Committee on National Missions shall have this responsibility.) | | |
| | **III. Worship and Pastoral Service.** | | |
| ✓ | 1. Weekly service of worship, carefully prepared for. | | |
| ✓ | 2. Care and arrangement of place of worship. | | |
| ✓ | 3. Regular pastoral visitation throughout parish. | | |
| ✓ | 4. All-year program of evangelistic cultivation and recruiting. | | |
| | 5. Minister's class preparatory for church membership. | | |
| ✓ | 6. Loyal cooperation with general program of Denomination and its Boards and Agencies. | | |

| Col. 1 Now in Effect | | Col. 2 Adopted for Forthcoming Year | Col. 3 Exemption Requested |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **IV. Religious Education.** | | |
| | 1. Sunday School with weekly sessions throughout year, graded so far as practicable as to materials and methods. | | |
| | 2. Vacation Bible School with at least 10 teaching days. | | |
| | 3. Leadership or teacher training; or workers' conferences regularly held. | | |
| ✓ | 4. Week-day religious instruction classes. | | |
| ✓ | 5. Missionary education in the church school. | | |
| ✓ | 6. Some form of adult education, as missionary education, adult Bible class, discussion groups. | | |
| ✓ | 7. Organized group activities for boys, girls and young people. | | |
| ✓ | 8. Promotion of family religion and daily Bible reading. | | |
| | 9. Use of "Standard B" as an educational guide. | | |
| | If other activities in Religious Education are offered as substitutes for any of the standards listed above, as being more practicable under local conditions, list them here. | | |
| | **V. Finance.** | | |
| | 1. Budget adopted for fiscal year, including local church support and benevolences. | | |
| ✓ | 2. Annual Every Member Canvass. | | |
| ✓ | 3. Annual treasurer's report filed with Board of National Missions. (Use form on Page 2.) | | |
| ✓ | 4. Definite financial goals for the following: | | |
| ✓ | (a) Salary of minister or other worker. | | |
| | (b) Service pension premium. | | |
| | (c) Property obligations, (repayment of loans, interest, insurance.) | | |
| ✓ | (d) Per Capita assessments. | | |
| ✓ | (e) Benevolence contribution to Board of National Missions (not less than 42.5% of Benevolence Quota.) | | |
| ✓ | (f) Contributions to other benevolence causes. | | |
| ✓ | 5. Prompt and regular payments of foregoing obligations. | | |
| | **B. ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY CHURCHES** (Do not apply to City Fields) | | |
| | **I. Parish Program.** | | |
| | 1. Extend ministry of church throughout community area and into any unchurched contiguous areas. | | |
| | 2. Study of needs, of above area, to which church should minister. | | |

| Col. 1 Now in Effect | | Col. 2 Adopted for Forthcoming Year | Col. 3 Exemption Requested |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 3. Extension services, so far as needed— | | |
| | (a) Mission Sunday schools and preaching stations. | | |
| ✓ | (b) Systematic pastoral visitation. | | |
| ✓ | (c) Evangelistic services. | | |
| | (d) Cooperation with public schools in week-day religious education. | | |
| | (e) Vacation Bible schools. | | |
| | **II. Parish Organization.** | | |
| | The combination of two or more churches under a single minister or staff, where necessary or desirable, to be on Community Parish plan, with Parish Council. | | |
| | **III. Cooperation.** | | |
| | 1. Cooperation with other churches in community. | | |
| | 2. Cooperation with welfare agencies in community. | | |
| | 3. Cooperation with other representatives of Board of National Missions, where available. | | |

## C. ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR CITY CHURCHES
(Do not apply to Town and Country Fields)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **I. Program.** | | |
| | 1. In developing program account to be taken of neighborhood community needs. | | |
| | **II. Cooperation.** | | |
| | 1. Cooperation with adjacent churches. | | |
| | 2. Cooperation with welfare agencies. | | |

## D. ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR BI-LINGUAL CHURCHES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **I. Program.** | | |
| ✓ | 1. Provision for a worship service in English. | | |
| | 2. Emphasis upon graded instruction in S.S. in English. | | |
| | **II. Cooperation.** | | |
| | 1. Cooperation with other evangelical churches and with welfare agencies serving same language group. | | |
| | 2. Cooperation with English-speaking evangelical churches within parish area. | | |

# APPLICATION OF THE CHURCH

To the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.:

The Hydaburg Presbyterian Church at Hydaburg Alaska has carefully considered the Standards and procedures set forth in the Manual for National Missions Churches and summarized in this Application for National Missions Aid. The church agrees to put into operation all of the items of the Standards during the year beginning October 1, 19....., with the exception of those items checked in Column 3 from which exemption is hereby requested, for one year, for the reasons set forth in the accompanying statement.

The Church hereby makes application for National Missions aid in the amount of $ 1345.00 for a period of 12 months, beginning April 1, 1940.

In consideration of this aid being granted, the church agrees to assume and promptly meet the following obligations:

| | |
|---|---|
| Salary to be paid minister by the Church | $ 180.00 |
| Service Pension premium | ..... |
| 42.5 per cent of Benevolence Quota to Board of National Missions | (Check √) ✓ |
| Contribution to other Benevolence Causes | (Check √) ✓ |

The church also agrees to pay the per capita assessments due to Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly and to meet any property obligations, including any payments due the Board of National Missions for interest, principal, or insurance, and including the necessary upkeep of the property.

Approved by the Congregation at a regularly called meeting held (date).....

Date Mar. 3, 1940 Attest: Verne J. Swanson
Clerk or Secretary

## RECOMMENDATION OF NATIONAL MISSIONS COMMITTEE OF PRESBYTERY OF Alaska

The National Missions Committee of the Presbytery of Alaska has carefully considered the foregoing application and attached papers (if any) and recommends—

First, that the exemption requested from the items of Standards checked in Column 3 be granted by the Board for a period of one year, with the following exceptions None;

Second, that the Board make a grant to this field in the amount of $ 1345.00 for 12 months from Oct 1, 1939

Third, that, in accordance with the statement as to Classification of Fields in Section III, page 16 of the Manual, this church be placed in the following class Permanently Missionary

The Committee certifies to the Board that in its judgment this field is non-competitive within the meaning of the General Assembly action quoted in Section III, page 13ff of the Manual.

Adopted (date) Mar 27, 1940 Russell T Pederson
Chairman

## RECOMMENDATION OF NATIONAL MISSIONS COMMITTEE OF SYNOD OF.....

The National Missions Committee of the Synod of ....., in consideration of the foregoing application of the church and the action thereon of the Committee on National Missions of the Presbytery of....., hereby recommends to the Board that a grant be made to this field in the amount of $.....for.....months, beginning....., 19.....

Adopted (date).....

Chairman

## SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

# Board of National Missions, Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

Synod Washington Presbytery Alaska

Presbyterian Church of Hydaburg

The following persons have agreed to pay the amounts set opposite their names, to the Treasurer of the Hydaburg Presbyterian Church of for Current Expenses and Benevolences to the Boards of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., for the year beginning Oct 1 1939

(Place letter "m" after name to indicate member of church)

| NAME | Amount | | NAME | Amount | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Current Expenses | Benevolence Boards | | Current Expenses | Benevolence Boards |
| Powell Charles | $4.00 | $1.00 | Mrs Boyd Natalia | 1.00 | |
| James Edenso | 7.00 | ? | Marjorie Brownfield | $4.00 | $1.00 |
| Mrs C Morrison | 5.00 | | [illegible] | 2.50 | |
| Mrs James [illegible] | 5.00 | ? | [illegible] | | |
| David Isaac | 3.00 | | Mrs John Wallace | 2.50 | |
| Edna Isaac | 2.50 | | Mr [illegible] Wallace | 2.50 | |
| [illegible] | 2.00 | | Mrs Luke Frank | 2.50 | |
| Fred Grant | 2.50 | 2.50 | [illegible] Alexander | 2.50 | |
| Mrs Fred Grant | 2.50 | 2.50 | Mrs Edna Alexander | | |
| [illegible] | 50 | ? | Boyd Natalia | | 1.00 |
| [illegible] | 2.50 | | Adam Spahn | 1.00 | |
| Mrs Hallie Barnwell | 2.50 | ? | [illegible] | | 1.00 |
| [illegible] | 3.00 | | [illegible] | | 2.00 |
| H.C. Kennedy | 2.50 | ? | [illegible] | 50 | |
| [illegible] | 2.00 | | [illegible] | 1.00 | |
| [illegible] | .50 | | [illegible] | 2.00 | |
| [illegible] | .50 | | [illegible] | 1.00 | |
| [illegible] | $5.00 | ? | [illegible] | 2.00 | |
| Paul Morrison | 7.00 | | [illegible] | $1.00 | |
| Gladys Morrison | $3.00 | | [illegible] | 2.00 | |
| Linda Edenso | 3.00 | | [illegible] | 2.00 | |

| NAME | Amount | | NAME | Amount | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Current Expenses | Benevolence Boards | | Current Expenses | Benevolence Boards |
| Alice Watson | $3.00 | | | | |
| Jeff Tate | | | | | |
| Bessie Jones | $5.00 | | | | |
| Claude Mathis | $4.00 | | | | |
| Herbert Hargrove | 2.50 | | | | |
| Arthur Eide | $4.00 | | | | |
| Lloyd Smith | 1.00 | | | | |
| Vera Smith | $3.00 | | | | |
| Mildred Jones | 3.00 | | | | |
| Homer Hall | $5.00 | $1.00 | | | |
| Ralph Brown | 2.50 | | | | |
| Fred Brown | 4.00 | | | | |
| Signers - 55 | | | | | |

## SUBSCRIPTION BLANK

# Board of National Missions, Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

Synod Washington Presbytery Alaska

Presbyterian Church of Hydaburg

The following persons have agreed to pay the amounts set opposite their names, to the Treasurer of the Hydaburg Presbyterian Church of for Current Expenses and Benevolences to the Boards of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., for the year beginning Oct. 1, 1939 To Oct 1, 1940

(Place letter "m" after name to indicate member of church)

| NAME | Amount | | NAME | Amount | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Current Expenses | Benevolence Boards | | Current Expenses | Benevolence Boards |
| [illegible] | | | Wm Wallace | 2.00 | |
| Martha Young | .50 | | Dorothy Walker | 2.00 | |
| [illegible] | 1.00 | | [illegible] | .50 | |
| [illegible] | 1.00 | | Donald Bell | 1.50 | |
| Mrs James E | .50 | | [illegible] | 1.00 | |
| Mr James Edenshaw | .50 | | Matthew Charles | .50 | |
| Mrs Anna Peele | .50 | | Matilda Charles | .50 | |
| Alfred Skill | 1.50 | | C. F. Charles | 2.00 | |
| David Skultna | .50 | | Lena G. Charles | 2.00 | |
| Mrs David Peele | .50 | | [illegible] | .50 | |
| Grt Edenshaw | .50 | | [illegible] | .50 | |
| [illegible] | .50 | | [illegible] | .50 | |
| Charlie Jeff | .25 | | [illegible] | .50 | |
| John Jeff | .25 | | [illegible] | .50 | |
| [illegible] | 5.00 | | [illegible] | | 4.00 |
| Robert [illegible] | | 2.50 | [illegible] | | .50 |
| Mrs L G Isaacs | | 1.00 | [illegible] | | 1.00 |
| [illegible] | | | [illegible] | | [illegible] |
| [illegible] | | 1.00 | [illegible] | | 1.00 |
| [illegible] | | | [illegible] | | 1.00 |
| [illegible] | | | [illegible] | | .50 |

| NAME | Amount | | NAME | Amount | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Current Expenses | Benevolence Boards | | Current Expenses | Benevolence Boards |
| Ed Hamilton | 1.00 | | | | |
| Oline Jr [illegible] | 1.00 | | | | |
| Leonard [illegible] | | 2.00 | | | |
| Winfred [illegible] | | 2.00 | | | |
| [illegible] | | 2.00 | | | |
| Harvey Alexander | | 1.00 | | | |
| Ben Nath | | 1.00 | | | |
| Mitchell [illegible] | | 75c | | | |
| Adeyegbatin | | 1.00 | | | |
| E L Bell | | 1.00 | | | |
| Henry Edmonson | | 50 | | | |
| Rosie Edmonson | | 50. | | | |
| Rosie Broom | | 2.00 | | | |
| Ed Sanderson | | 5-00 | | | |
| Woodmansee | | 2.00 | | | |

MAIL—January—April—July—October to Everett B. King, Secretary Unit of Work in Alaska

# QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From Verne J. Swanson

Church Hydaburg Alaska

Date April 28, 1940

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

One disagreeable task which I am just completing is our every member canvas. The canvas for church pledges has never been made before in Hydaburg so that a good deal of detailed explaining is necessary, sometimes with an interpreter. Full announcement, of course, had been made several times from the pulpit & we have preached on tithing, but nevertheless there has been considerable misunderstanding. We are sure that this canvas will help develop the church spiritually as our membership is woefully backward when it comes to stewardship. Only three members have refused to pledge.

We are happy to report at least two tithers in our midst.

The church repair work which started off so promisingly with volunteer labor has slowed down & almost stopped but we at least hope to finish the shingling & put at least one coat of paint on the outside the church. The young people are planning on soon raising the money for the paint.

The ivory paint inside has reduced our lighting difficulties & brightened things up remarkably. A big job accomplished in two Saturdays.

Our week day bible classes (we call them clubs) held Tuesday afternoon & evening for primary & junior groups in the public school have had practically 100% attendance. A surprising amount of memory work has been done. Prizes were offered for the best work. We are now planning for our vacation school this summer.

Seven new members were received into membership of the church the Sunday after Easter, one on confession & six by letter. We now have two more candidates for membership.

Yours in His service

Verne J. Swanson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON
HYDABURG, ALASKA

# PRESBYTERY
## OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN
SKAGWAY, ALASKA

PENSIONS
REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK
REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

Hydaburg Alaska
May 7, 1940

Dear Dr. King,

Mindful of the Board's stand on support of missionaries engaging in commercial activity I would like to request leave of absence without pay for the month of August, 1940.

This would not interfere with the carrying on of all possible services during the month of August

Sincerely
Verne J. Swanson.

May 14, 1940

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

So far as I am concerned, it would be satisfactory for you to have a leave of absence for one month without pay during the month of August. If you clear that with the Chairman of National Missions Committee, I do not see how any difficulty can arise.

Thank you for the report that you sent in regard to the Every Member Canvass. I appreciate the fact that it was no easy task, but am happy that you have taken the job seriously, and believe it will bring forth a harvest in the long run.

Cordially yours,

EBK:E

August 1, 1940

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I am glad to learn from your quarterly news letter of July 22 that you are able to carry on with our Lord's work in spite of the drop in attendance during fishing season. My prayer is that His blessing will be upon you.

I hope Mrs. Swanson will soon be home from California with a clean bill of health.

Cordially yours,

DH

MAIL—January—April—July—October to Everett B. King, Secretary Unit of Work in Alaska

# QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From Irene J. Swanson

Church Hydaburg Alaska

Date July 22, 1940

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

The busy time for our people has come; the men preparing their boats & nets for the six week salmon season; the women picking & canning wild berries until actual canning operation for salmon begins when they will take their places along the fast running line cutting up the salmon.

Because of the lack of volunteer labor we have had to discontinue the shingling & other repair work on the church building until after the fishing season. I worked alone for a while & then decided to wait for help.

The manse has been completely painted & the front & side cleared of brush prepared for a garden. We used the balance of the paint on one end of the church which is sadly in need of painting.

There is the usual seasonal drop in church attendance & in the Sunday school it is difficult to carry on at all as heretofore no Sunday school has been held during the summer months. However we hope to carry on with the faithful few tho even our superintendent & last teacher has deserted.

Our Vacation Bible school now in session for two weeks is fairly well attended tho not as well as if it had been held in June. We had postponed the school in the hope that Mrs. Swanson would have returned from here trip to California for medical attention. The doctor prolonged her stay so that she is not yet home. However, we are carrying on with the help of two girl graduates of Sheldon Jackson School, Lillian Edenso & Margaret Morrison!

Sincerely

Irene J. Swanson

MAIL—January—April—July—October to Everett B. King, Secretary Unit of Work in Alaska

# QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From Verne J. Swanson

Church Hydaburg Alaska

Date Oct 1, 1940

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

Dear Dr. King,

The summer slump in our church work is just about over, we hope. A jump from 18 to 61 in Sunday school attendance is a happy indication. This past summer is the first one in which Sunday school has been carried on without a break here at Hydaburg. We were able also to carry on morning services during our August leave of absence.

The session voted to resume prayermeeting services Oct. 2.

With a poor fishing season in this district just over, many of our people are facing a lean winter & so are concentrating on canning venison & salmon as well as smoking & drying much salmon. A good yield of potatoes from the gardens will help considerably.

Mr. & Mrs. Miller, the new Government teachers arrived last month & seem more interested in services than were the last ones.

We hope to soon resume our week day bible school which was so well attended last winter. We hope to obtain the use of one of the government school classrooms for these classes.

Though our efforts with the Christian Endeavor young people last winter were not too successful we have already announced re-organization plans which will include the older group.

Sincerely

Verne J. Swanson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON
HYDABURG, ALASKA

# PRESBYTERY
## OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN
SKAGWAY, ALASKA

PENSIONS
REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK
REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

OCT. 15, 1940
Hydaburg.

Dear Bromley,

Things are going smoothly in our work.

Sunday school is almost back to normal.

We are planning on starting our week day bible school next week & hope to obtain the use of the goverament school building as was granted last winter.

Due to the death of a baby last Friday our re-opening C. E. meeting was postponed for a week.

We shingled one fourth of the manse with cedar shingles where the composition shingles have been so badly torn off by the wind. Hope to get enuf in next years appropriation to buy shingles for the rest of the manse.

Installed a hand pump beside the sink so that we can have city water even when the pressure drops too low for us.

Fall fishing is just about over & was rather poor, some hardly made expenses.

Sincerely
Verne J. Swanson

October 25, 1940

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I read your quarterly news letter with a great deal of interest and noted the big jump from 18 to 61 in your Sunday school attendance. That certainly ought to bring courage to your heart and strength to your faith.

I know you welcome Mr. and Mrs. Miller into your fellowship and services.

May the Lord bless you in your work.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

November 26, 1940

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Swanson:

Thank you for the helpful suggestions you have made relative to the building of the "Princeton-Hall". Since you were on the old boat so long, your advice is most valuable.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

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REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER
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STATED CLERK
REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

Hydaburg, Alaska Nov. II, I940

Dear Dr. King,

I have carefully gone over the plans of the Princeton replacement which were sent me by Mr. Yaw. I hope that you will not think me too crttical in making the following suggestions.

There seems to be accommadations for sleeping nine at present. The Princeton could sleep fifteen without doubling up. Extra emergency bunks should be provided for. If possible there should be a pilot-house bunk under the folding chart table.

Installing the engine muffler in the stack would help in keeping down excessive heat in the engine room fiddley.

Would eliminate anchor davit as it hampers visibility especially at night by reflecting searchlight glare. Prefer anchors always stowed in hawse pipes for emergency use; also to prevent anchor position shifting from causing compass deviation.

Exhaust stack should be galvanized before painting. Tho heavy the Princeton's had rusted thru in spots.

Lifeboats should have installed air tanks in case the new boat is to pass steamboat inspection for carrying of passengers.

Iron-bark rubbing rail should be up to six inches wide to withstand hard service against piling in this district.

Mast should be as high as practicable for the installation of an efficient radio-telephone antennae.

Would like to see the pilot house faired into the main deck house instead of the jog as in present plan.

If possible lower floor of anchor chain locker so as to obtain maximum ballast effect, also to prevent chain from piling up and jamming anchor winch as usually happened on the Princeton.

Re. prime mover, I would suggest the installation of a I65 H.P. Gray Marine (General Motors) diesel engine with a 4.4 to I heavy duty reduction gear.

I am sending a copy of these suggestions to Mr. Yaw that he may send his comments to you on them.

Hoping that that these may be of some help, I am,

Yours sincerely

Verne J. Swanson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
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STATED CLERK
REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

Dec 12, 1940

Dear Bromley,

Things are getting busier here especially with the Mrs. as she plays for the choir practising for a Christmas Cantata. She is also helping the nurse afternoons temporarily. The nurse was quite ill & is not yet completely restored.

The wet weather of late has prevented our completing the church shingling but the worst is done.

Our Missionary society is putting on a Bazaar Saturday to raise money for completing the enlargement of the church basement.

Received a number of new members recently, three on confession. Hope some of our Intermediates will take their stand at least by Easter. I have invited them but they are quite timid about it. I am not urging unduly.

Jaw writes asking if I would consider helping on engine installation, etc on Princeton replacement about April. It might mean two to six months in Sitka so am not anxious to do it except in a pinch.

Best regards

Verne J. Swanson.

January 31, 1941

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Swanson:

Congratulations on the ability that you have to lead your people in developing your church property. You certainly have been doing and are doing a splendid piece of work. That was no small item for your missionary society to clear over $100. for the church basement completion. More power to you!

Now in regard to the Friendship month during February - I am going to expect you to lead the people in a campaign to make a contribution to the benevolence work of the church. I feel that this is an essential and necessary part in the spiritual growth and development of your people. Without practicing the principle of stewardship Christianity grows weak. I am, therefore, insisting that you lead your people in an active effort to make a generous and liberal contribution to our Board of National Missions during the month of February.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B

ALASKA

March 28, 1941

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

It is necessary that I make an appraisal of the work we are now carrying on in Alaska. I am, therefore, coming to you for help. Please give me an appraisal of our Presbyterian work in southeastern Alaska in Alaska Presbytery. I am particularly interested in receiving the following information:

1. A brief description of the town or community where our church is located. Give the population of the community, tell whether it is native or white, and give an accurate statement of the number and names of other churches serving in the community.

2. A statement of the condition of our church property, giving the actual value as well as the commerical value.

3. A digest of the program of our church, including the Sunday school and church attendance, young people's activities, together with any other service the church is rendering.

I am eager for this information to be in my hands as soon as possible so I shall appreciate your sending it by airmail.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B

ALASKA

April 14, 1941

Rev. Mr. Verne Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Swanson:

I have a letter from Mr. Leslie Yaw stating that he would like to use you on the mechanical construction of the Princeton-Hall. I have written him my approval and trust that you will be able to work your plans around to accommodate Mr. Yaw.

Thank you for the information about Hydaburg.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B

ALASKA

May 7, 1941

Rev. Mr. V. J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

In accordance with our letter of October 15th we now enclose our Board's check for $37.50 covering the balance of the supplement to your regular salary which was provided by the gift of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Scheide of Titusville, Pennsylvania.

Cordially yours,

HEW:B
Enc.

ALASKA

MAIL—January—April—July—October to Everett B. King, Secretary Unit of Work in Alaska

# QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From Verne J. Swanson

Church Hydaburg Alaska

Date Jan 22, 1941

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

One of the happy events of the holiday season was the presentation Christmas night of the cantata 'Sing all Glorious' by the choir. The special offering taken was for the benefit of the piano which has already been purchased. The young people of the church have undertaken to raise the balance due on the piano.

The Christmas program was very successful due to the efforts put forth by the government school teachers. Every school child participated in the program. The Christmas tree was almost literally buried in gifts as it is the custom for the whole town to join in this service. The white gift offering was devoted to our pledge toward Alaska Presbytery's share in the support of Robert Waggoner of Colombia, South America.

The Missionary Society held a bazaar in the town hall clearing over one hundred dollars which is to be used in the completion of the church basement.

In December four people united with the church upon confession of faith in Christ as Savior.

Shingling of the church is nearing completion but slowly as of late there is rarely any volunteer labor to supplement our efforts. The last ten bundles of shingles have been ordered.

We are enjoying a mild winter so far. Only one spell of two inches of snow. But the rain makes up for it - 180 inches per year.

Sincerely

Verne J. Swanson.

January 27, 1942

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Swanson:

The Executive Comm ttee of the Board of National Missions at its meeting January 15, 1942 made available the amount of $45,580. for salary adjustments. This action was retroactive. Where the adjustments are made payments will date back to October 1, 1941.

The Board also took action in regard to the adjustment of salaries of missionaries who received part of their compensation from the church or agencies which they serve. This action was to the effect that the adjustment could be made only when the employing church or agency agreed to make the same percentage increase in the amount which they pay. Confident that your church will respond to this action of the Board and will grant you an increase in salary from the local church I am, therefore, docketing you for an additional $60. on your salary from the Board for this year.

I am asking that the Alaskan churches match the amount that the Board gives in increase of salary. In other words, you will present this request to your Session, asking for an increase of $60. for this present year. You will please notify me when your Session takes action relative to an increase on the salary from the field.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

MAIL—January—April—July—October to Everett B. King, Secretary Unit of Work in Alaska

# QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From Gerne S. Swanson

Church Hydaburg, Alaska

Date April 14, 1942

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

After an absence of nine months we returned from Sitka where we had assisted in construction of the new mission boat Princeton-Hall which has now been requisitioned by the Navy for military service. At the close of the war emergency the requisitioned boats will be sold to the highest bidders so that our church may have the opportunity of re-purchasing our mission boat Princeton-Hall for one half or even one third it cost price of some thirty five thousand dollars.

On returning we found many of our personal effects mouldy from the dampness of our annual 160 inch rainfall. We had not anticipated the long duration of our stay in Sitka where we had enjoyed the hospitality of Sheldon Jackson School.

Because of a shortage of a number of staff members Mrs. Swanson stayed on at Sheldon Jackson School to help out in the pinch but will be home again at the close of school May 22. We hope to hold our annual Vacation Bible school shortly after the local government school closes June 1.

Hydaburg is a town of children as there are over one hundred in the government school in the grades below high school. This in a town of about 350 population. So we have quite a responsibility & opportunity here.

Life is quite normal here in spite of the possibility that the war might come to our door. The government nurse here is giving courses in First Aid that we might be prepared for the worst.

Because of a good fishing season last summer many of our people are building new homes and with the aid of government loans installing new engines in their seine boats.

A few of our young men have been drafted & a number of others away working in pre-season canning & defense work.

April 30, 1942

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson,
Hydaburg,
Alaska

Dear Friend Swanson:

I have your letter of April 17th, with your check enclosed in the amount of $117.10. I note what you say about repaying the Board the full amount that you received from the Navy. As you well know, the policy of the Board of National Missions very clearly states that no missionary employee of the Board can receive an additional salary from any source. Whether or not this is fair and just is not a matter for us to debate. It is something that we simply have to face and accept. Personally, I wish I could tell you that it would be perfectly all right for you to follow the plan you have suggested, namely, to pay the full 10% of your pension and to keep the amount that was paid to you by the Navy, but in view of the policy of the Board, I cannot give my consent.

You will, therefore, please make arrangements to repay the Board the full amount that you received from the Navy in service for them.

I take it your check for $117.10 is a payment on this refund. I am, therefore, depositing the check and making note that this represents your first payment on that refund.

Cordially yours,

EBK-M

Hydaburg, Alaska
Apr. 17, 1942

Dear Dr. King,

My session is still stalling with regard to the raise you requested for me from the field. I'm quite sure it will be O.K.'d later though.

Was quite surprised at your word from Bromley recommending that I refund the Navy salary received by me while in their employ. It has been a simple matter in the past (three times) for me to retain my pension standing by paying the full 10%.

If you insist on this I will have to raise 350.00. Somehow it doesn't seem fair.

If I had had a ghost of an idea that you might not approve my going over to the Navy to finish up the Princeton-Hall, I would have awaited your sanction.

I'm enclosing my check for $117.10

Sincerely
Verne J. Swanson.

May 27, 1942

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

Thank you for sending the check for $117.10 which has been applied on refund from your Navy salary.

In regard to the $100. appropriation recommended by the Presbytery for the Hydaburg Manse - I am sorry but that recommendation was never received here in this office. Accordingly, I am sending in a request to our Building and Repair Fund in order to help us pay this amount. If it is received it will be necessary for you to send us an itemized statement together with the receipted bills. Our auditors are becoming more and more severe in their demands - which I think is quite right. They are insisting that we have the bills and so forth. If, therefore, you will send me the bills for the $100. I am sure that I can find the money for you.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

Hydaburg Alaska
May 13, 1942

Dear Dr. King,

I have your letters of Apr. 30 & May 1.

Enclosed please find my check for $117.00, second installment of my Navy salary refund.

Re. my bill to you for 35.00 for shingles for Hydaburg manse; at meeting of Presbytery 13 months ago $100.00 for manse repairs was recommended. This was confirmed recently by Bromley - H.M. chairman. I have no way of knowing whether or not you OKed this recommendation. I assumed that it was included in your budget for the work of our Presbytery.

The sheeting is rotting on the manse roof under three layers of covering - cedar shingles, composition shingles, roll roofing. I thought it wise to tear off the whole three layers & replace with cedar shingles which is the most practical covering for our occasional high winds. I am applying the shingles myself.

If you find that $100.00 I would like to include the cost of a new closet tank which I am now installing

Sincerely
Irene L. Swanson.

Hydaburg Alaska
June 22, 1942

Dear Dr. King,

Am enclosing my check for the third & final payment on my Navy salary refund- cr to Alaska budget.

Am also enclosing bills for shingles, etc.

Chg to Alaska Bldg and Equip. pending receipt of $100 grant requested from Home Missions Bldg and Repair

Sincerely
Verne J. Swanson

Hydaburg Alaska
July 6, 1942

Dear Dr. King,

Enclosed find my quarterly report.

Am also enclosing my check for $5.35 for our Children's day offering.

sent to Treas. 7/16/42.

Would like to request one months leave of absence without pay during the month of Aug.

O.K. so notify—

E.P.K.

Sincerely
Verne J. Swanson.

July 28, 1942

AIRMAIL

Rev. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

Your letter of July 6th has been received during Dr. King's absence on vacation and a field trip. I forwarded it on to him and he has just replied giving his O.K. on the month's leave of absence during the month of August.

Cordially yours,

Secretary to Dr. King

McE

MAIL—January—April—July—October to Everett B. King, Secretary Unit of Work in Alaska

# QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From Verne I. Swanson

Church Hydaburg Alaska

Date July 6, 1942

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

Having a warm dry summer in our part of Alaska. Even have to water the garden. Our salmon cannery is busily preparing for the annual run of salmon. Operations may be somewhat hampered by a shortage of labor. A number of the local seine fishing boats do not have full crews as yet.

The war so far has not disturbed our Hyda Indians. Only one family has constructed a shelter back in the woods "just in case". However, we do have a home guard unit; the result of a visit of Governor Gruening.

Our Vacation school was somewhat hampered by an epidemic of the mumps among the young people but we consider it quite a success in spite of the difficulties. The Vacation school supplied a part of the program of a recent Sunday evening service.

Because of uncertainties of shipping, food supplies are none too plentiful but no one need go hungry here. If necessary we could live off the country - venison, clams, mussels, fish of many kinds, berries, edible grasses & roots. Almost all gardens are larger this year. Much fish is still smoked & dried but flour & sugar have become staples, often to the detriment of health.

Mail still reaches us quite promptly though censorship delays some. However, radio keeps us abreast of things. We know nothing more about the war in the Aleutians than "folks outside"

Some Aleuts evacuated from the Aleutians have been established at various places in Southeastern Alaska. They will help alleviate the labor shortage.

July 13, 1942

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

Enclosed is a check for $38.63 covering the cost of the shingles and other repairs to the manse recently incurred.

Dr. King is at present away on vacation and will not return until the tenth of August.

We trust you are having a fine summer.

Cordially yours,

McE

Secretary to Dr. King

Expense Voucher

Hydaburg Alaska

Mar. 17, 1942

35 bundles shingles @ 35.00

Provided for in budget of
Presbytery of Alaska
for Hydaburg manse.

Make check payable to —

Verne J. Swanson
Bank of Petersburg
Petersburg Alaska

Verne J. Swanson.

May 1, 1942

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Brother Swanson:

Enclosed with your last report and salary voucher we received a statement dated March 17 covering 35 buhdles of shingles at a cost of $35.00. On this statement you make the following comments:

"Provided for in budget of Presbytery of Alaska for Hydaburg Manse"

We have no money available here for this work and have no request of any request having been made to us. We would appreciate receiving more information from you as to whether this is something we are to pay or something promised by the Presbytery.

Cordially yours,

MoE

August 19, 1942

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydabrug, Alaska

Dear Swanson:

During my absence from the office your final check for the third and last payment on your Navy salary was received. Due credit was given and this account, of course, is closed.

I shall be very interested in knowing what you did with your vacation time since you asked that you have that period as a leave of absence without pay.

I wonder how the church work is coming. Please write me more in detail in your next report about the church life.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

Hydaburg Alaska
Sept. 24, 1942

Dear Dr. King,

In your letter of Aug 19 you ask about my use of the attached Aug. leave I requested. I went fishing on one of our Hydaburg seine boats. Have always been intrigued by fishing. It is a real vacation which is sometimes quite profitable financially.

You ask re. the church work. There is always a decided slump in church activities during the summer. The Sunday school drops down to a handful of the faithful few though we endeavor to carry on thru the summer without a break, even during our leave of absence (no fishing on Sunday). While we were away at Sitka no effort was made by the local workers to carry on thru the summer.

Church attendance, too, in the summer is very poor. Working in the cannery (the women & some men pack Saturday's fish on Sunday), picking & canning berries, gardening & drying & smoking fish make it a very busy time. I am sorry to say that a large part of the church constituency finds it too convenient to neglect worship & church activities. Home visitation sometimes helps but more often does not seem to help.

During my leave while fishing I conducted a funeral service at Craig. Had a large congregation (for Craig). A funeral almost always draws good attendance.

Am very sorry that Wm. Youngs was asked to leave Craig. I feel that it would be better to have him there than leave the field to the Seventh Day Adventists. I did not approve of his irregular, independent ordination nor his intolerance of the established church but he had real zeal for the Lord. He also made great improvements in the church building.

In Klawock I found the manse back door broken in & torn apart & things inside scattered about. Probably done by kids. I drained the water pipes in case you should not send a man before freezing weather & patched & nailed up the back door.

From April till Sept some of our Hydaburg people are away & living at canneries at Rose Inlet & Waterfall. This coming winter we are anticipating a drop in population because of good paying jobs in other localities. At the beginning of public school this fall there was a drop of 50% in attendance. That may improve later, however.

Re. the $60.00 goal for Hydaburg for National missions I will take it up with the session this fall after the gathering of the clan. It is difficult to get full attendance of session at any time except winter & the session will not assume any obligation without full representation. e.g. - on my 5% raise - so far - no action.

Recently a sudden opportunity arose for us to take a trip to Seattle on a Hydaburg boat so we left immediately without communicating with you. I am taking Mrs. Swanson to Portland to a specialist - a gynecologist + incidentally having a persistent 'crick in the back' of my own checked over. Hope to be away from Hydaburg not over one month. Please ask the treasurer to deduct a month's salary to cover this contingency.

While here I am trying to locate a second hand purse seine deck winch ~~which~~ for the new work boat which Sheldon Jackson school is building.

In order ~~tt~~ to obtain transportation for seven Hydaburg girls for S.J.S. I had to make the trips up to Sitka on a local boat - 3 days round trips.

Saw the Princeton-Hall near Cape Decision on this trip. Just walked away from our 9 knot boat. Was probably making 11 knots

Had a talk with Howell in Thompson's office yesterday. Was getting Army clearance to return to Alaska in case we must return on a regular steamer.

Sincerely

Verne J. Swanson

Hydaburg Alaska
Nov. 4, 1942

Dear D. I. King,

In answer to your circular letter of May 14 I wish to report that I was finally able to get my whole session together & they accepted the quota of 60.00 for National Missions from Hydaburg.

We are also to complete our church basement project with volunteer labor & local funds.

At the opening session of our Bible Club this evening our enrollment was 40. This in spite of the fact that a large number of our people are spending the winter in other towns where work is available. Public school enrollment has dropped from 100 to about 50.

In our Sunday school we have lost (for the winter) our superintendent & two teachers but we have found replacements. Our mail service seems to be getting worse. We have not yet received our October S. S. supplies ordered 4 weeks ago.

Sincerely
Irene J. Swanson.

November 20, 1942

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Mr. Swanson:

I am coming to you because I need your help in regard to our work at Klawock and Craig. As you well know this is one of the most difficult fields in Alaska. The last two men that we have had there have stayed only a short time and have not been able to do very much constructive work.

The report that you gave to me about the condition of the property has been confirmed by others who have visited the field. As I see it we need some man who has a real passion for the Indians, with the ability to do a great deal of carpenter work. I cannot think of anyone who seems to answer the need for this field better than you. Therefore, I am asking you whether or not you will consider transferring to this field. If you will, of course, the Board will take care of whatever expenses are involved in the move. The time for the move, if you will make it, ought to be very soon: the sooner the better.

There is question in my mind whether or not we should continue the Craig work. It may be that the wisest thing to do is to center the efforts in Klawock. This, of course, would be determined by the man who goes into the service.

I should like you to place this matter up on your heart, and will appreciate your praying it through and then giving me your answer. I think you and Mrs. Swanson may be able to go in an reconstruct this whole field, and certainly I know you could and would repair the property to such a point that we would not be ashamed of it.

Cordially yours,

EBK:mk

Kydaburg, Alaska.
Dec. 26, 1942

Dear Dr. King,

I have had your letter of Nov. 20 for some time now. I have purposely delayed my reply in order to give fair consideration to your request that we move to Klawock.

So far neither Mrs. Swanson nor myself are willing to make the change, nor have we felt led to believe that we should undertake the move.

We hope that our wish in this matter will not too seriously cross your plans.

We just today completed our church basement enlargement project & will use it for the first time for a get-together preceding the watch nite service.

Sincerely
Irene J. Swanson.

Ketchikan Feb 14, 1943

Dear Dr. King,

The town "exodus" is beginning to abate somewhat - that is, some of the men who went elsewhere seeking work are beginning to come back. The building construction at Edna Bay, a new spruce logging project, is almost complete. Logging will probably start soon. Carpenters have been earning 16.50 a day (10 hours). airplane

A number of our young men have been inducted into the service.

We had here a spell of the coldest weather we had known in this part of S. E. Alaska. The water supply pipe line froze up & the town is still having to carry water - three weeks later. We in the manse are fortunate in having our own rain-water system.

Town lights from the cannery have been off also for about three weeks due to burned out fuses. We now depend on our manse battery system of lights for the church all the time. Previously we had only needed our battery lights during morning service & afternoon Sunday school when town lights were off.

During the worst of the cold snap we conducted our church services in our newly completed basement addition as our furnace was too small to heat the auditorium.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Board for the 200.00 ~~gift~~ supplement to our salary for the year

Sincerely
Irene L. Swanson

There is considerable interest among the boys & girls in the 4H club which is being sponsored by Mrs. Swanson.

MAIL—January—April—July—October to Everett B. King, Secretary Unit of Work in Alaska

# QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From Verne L. Swanson

Church Hydaburg Alaska

Date May 24, 1943

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

Things seem quite normal here in our village on the West Coast of Prince of Wales Island in spite of our being in the war zone. Possibly the authorities feel that danger to us has abated as fifty tons of emergency food supplies are being disposed of to the stores & the cannery. An occasional American bomber high overhead reminds us, however.

Food rationing in the states does not apply to us up here which is some compensation. Certain things as butter & stove pipe is often unobtainable thru local stores. Rationing down below has enabled us to get a more liberal & wider selection of meats.

A number of the men of our town are beginning to come back from construction jobs in lumber camps. Even the high wages offered are not incentive enough to keep many of them working.

There is unusual activity in gardens this spring especially around the houses. In the past potatoes constituted practically the only crop & these gardens were planted at other easily prepared spots away from the village. Mrs. Swanson's work with the 4 H clubs stimulated considerable interest among the boys & girls. Each member has his or her own garden plot with various vegetables. Neat gardens & many picket fences have improved the appearances of many of the homes.

At a recent evening church service the Junior-Intermediate Bible club put on a demonstration of their accomplishments for the benefit of their parents. Memory work, songs & choruses were topped by the most popular event — the bible reference race in which the club members divided into two sides, try to find & read a given reference first. There is not one of the forty club members that could not beat their elders at the reference game from Genesis to Revelation.

At a previous evening service the Primary Bible Club was the chief attraction at the service under the auspices of the Women's Missionary society which was raising money for Haines House. Memory work, Books of the Bible & songs were featured.

January 11, 1943

AIR MAIL

Rev. Mr. Verne J. Swanson
Hydaburg, Alaska

Dear Swanson:

I have your letter of December 26, and note that you and Mrs.Swanson do not feel that you can make a change at this time. Of course, I will not press the matter, and shall be glad to abide by your decision.

I had the thought that you could and would do a fine piece of work for us in that most difficult field at Klawock. Perhaps though this is not the time for you to make a change.

Cordially yours,

EBK/mk